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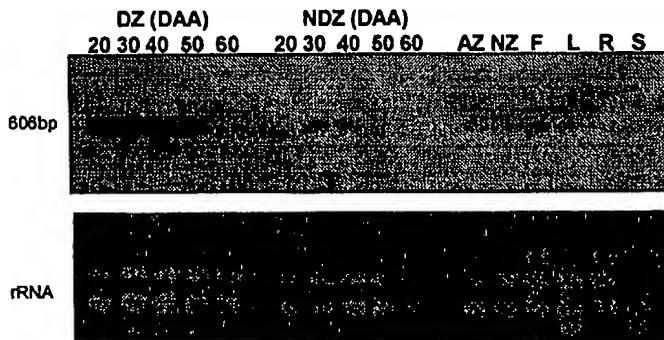


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(54) Title: SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION PROTEIN INVOLVED IN PLANT DEHISCENCE

## Expression analysis of DZ2 in various plant organs using Northerns



DZ = Pod dehiscence zone (20-60 DAA) F = Flower  
 NDZ = Pod non-zone (20-60DAA) L = Leaf  
 AZ = Leaf abscission zone R = Root  
 NZ = Non-zone (stem) S = Seed

(57) Abstract

This invention relates to novel plant nucleic acid sequences and proteins. The sequences and proteins are useful in the control of plant dehiscence and in the production of male sterile plants. According to a first aspect of the invention there is provided nucleic acid optionally encoding a signal transduction protein involved in the process of dehiscence. Such a sequence or signal transduction protein has never previously been described in plant dehiscence.